

To: EOC Water[EOC_Water@epa.gov]; EOC ATSDR[EOC_ATSDR@epa.gov]; EOC Environmental Unit[EOC_Environmental_Unit@epa.gov]; EOC HealthSafety[EOC_HealthSafety@epa.gov]
From: Jennifer Colaizzi
Sent: Tue 8/11/2015 2:31:29 PM
Subject: Anticipated media Qs for Animas

Hi All:

I'm not sure what has been developed on the ground.

I don't know what information we are ready to address, but below are possible Qs which may or may not have been considered.

Is my drinking water safe?

Is the water local farmers are using safe?

If local farmers watered produce with water from river, is the food safe to eat? What are restrictions?

How do we know contaminated fish didn't migrate to unaffected areas?

What does arsenic levels 300 times the normal level and lead 3,500 times the normal level mean? Are there extra special precautions for children, elderly, immune deficiency residents?

How can toxic chemicals only remain in an area a short time, as Deborah McKean, toxicologist said? Doesn't water effect the wildlife?

How can communities take advantage of water quality sampling?

This is a superfund cleanup now?

Who is paying for testing?

Where do I go for information?

Who is talking to limited English proficiency people?

If testing has not been performed why not?

What happens if livestock touched the water?

Who tests private wells?

Who tests waters in general?

Do private wells need sampling?

Can I participate in recreation on the water?

What if I touch the water with bare skin?

What if some of it enters my mouth?

What are dangers if it rains/floods?

What is EPA doing to contain spill?

Is EPA working with local authorities?

Should we be buying bottled water?

Are there special concerns for tribal communities?

Do people fish/crab/etc from these waters? Is seafood edible?

How long can this contamination linger in seafood?

If not edible or if water is not drinkable, what are the medical concerns? What are the symptoms?

Where do we go for medical treatment?

What are effects of arsenic, lead, copper, cadmium, aluminum on humans? On wildlife?

Why is the river orange?

What was EPA doing there in the first place?

What data has been collected and what does it mean?

What areas are effected? How many miles?

Did EPA violate our own Clean Water Act?

Why didn't we have procedures in place to prevent this?

What are farmers expected to do if they cannot use water for irrigation?

Are we working with local authorities?

Do any communities use river water for fighting fires?

Is mine still leaking? IF so, why?

How could we mistakenly release toxic waste?

How are we treating the water?

How will this effect already troubled drought areas?

With such an effort on conservation, how can we continue to ask people to conserve water when EPA doesn't even have the correct precautionary procedures in place?

How does this affect the livelihood of the Navaho nation?

How does this affect outdoor recreation small and large business?

Who compensates for failed crops?

Why wasn't New Mexico informed immediately?

Why did it take EPA so long to notify affected communities?

When do we expect clean up?

What are you doing to keep people away?

Are there long term birth defects?

How does this affect pregnant women?

What are the events leading up to the spill?

Are there non-water related hazards? IS breathing mist from river bad?

Who is responsible for coordinating monitoring, sampling, and assessment activities?

Who is responsible for protecting/monitoring food supply?

Will this affect crops in upcoming years?

Are EPA employees ore contractors responsible?

What else is in release that we don't already know?

Who answers the above questions?

Who makes decision that this is a state of emergency?

Have there been press conferences? Have we identified spokes people?

Do we plan to have a daily news conference? Or a morning and afternoon conference?

Is there a JIC?

Who is in the EOC?

Who is on the ground?

Who is talking to limited English proficiency people?

Where do people go for info?

How are we distributing info?

Who is coordinating with Navajo nation?

Who has authority to close waters?

Jennifer Colaizzi

Press Officer

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

202-564-7776 (o)

202-573-1259 (c)